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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, WASHINGTON

PREVIEWED BY

DATE

For XDC/EXT. DATE

AS ADJ.

CHIEF OF BUREAU

DEPUTY CHIEF OF BUREAU

SECRETARY

ASSISTANT SECRETARY

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E.O. 12065: N/A

TAGS: SREF, PK, AF

SUBJECT: AFGHANISTAN RELIEF COMMITTEE

REFS: (A) ISLAMABAD 0440; (B) ISLAMABAD 0000; (C) STATE 212300

1. MARY ANN DUBS, OF SUBJECT COMMITTEE, HAS CONTACTED THE DESK FOR ADVICE AS TO HOW THE COMMITTEE SHOULD PROCEED IN ITS PROGRAM OF PROVIDING ASSISTANCE TO THE REFUGEES. THE COMMITTEE IS AWARE OF GOP SENSITIVITIES ABOUT LOCAL ACTIVITIES OF FOREIGN PERSONNEL IN REFUGEE RELIEF, AND WISHES TO AVOID ANY EVENT OF MINIMIZE ADMINISTRATIVE OVERHEAD. AT THE SAME TIME, IT WISHES TO MAINTAIN ITS IDENTITY, EXERCISE SOME DIRECTION OF USE OF FUNDS, AND DERIVE APPROPRIATE PUBLICITY WHICH WILL FURTHER ITS FUND-RAISING EFFORTS.

2. CURRENT CASE IN POINT IS ITS DECISION TO PROVIDE AN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INITIAL \$25,000 FOR THE MISSION HOSPITAL IN QUETTA.

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DIRECTED BY DR. HENRY LUTHER, TO OPERATE AN EYE CLINIC. THE COMMITTEE WOULD LIKE TO SEND EITHER A COMMITTEE MEMBER OR A PROMINENT PUBLIC FIGURE TO PAKISTAN TO PRESENT THE CHECK TO DR. LUTHER AND DEDICATE THE CLINIC. MRS. DUBS WOULD APPRECIATE THE EMBASSY'S VIEWS ON THE LIKELY GOP

REACTION TO SUCH A USE OF PRIVATE RELIEF FUNDS AND TO THE PUBLIC CEREMONY IN QUETTA.

3. IN RESPONSE TO THE EMBASSY QUESTION IN REFS. A AND B, THE COMMITTEE'S FINANCIAL RESOURCES ARE UNCERTAIN, BUT VERY LIMITED AT BEST. MRS. DUBS SAYS THAT THE WASHINGTON OFFICE OF THE COMMITTEE HAS SO FAR RAISED ONLY \$49,000, AND IS UNAWARE OF HOW MUCH THE NEW YORK OFFICE HAS ON HAND. FUND-RAISING EFFORTS ARE CONTINUING, AND EPISODIC DONATIONS IN KIND (E.G. MEDICINES) MAY CAUSE SOME LUMPINESS IN RESOURCE FLOWS, BUT CLEARLY THE COMMITTEE WILL WANT TO CONCENTRATE ON SMALL, CONCRETE PROJECTS WHICH WILL PRODUCE DIRECT, TANGIBLE RELIEF FOR REFUGEES. MURKIE

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